

Montana Disaster & Emergency Services

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DES NEWSLETTER

Volume 28

August 1995

Number 3

John E. Prendergast
Adjutant General



Jim Greene
Administrator

Marc Racicot
Governor

ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE

This summer finds us beginning a new state fiscal year and finishing up the current federal fiscal year. During this time, we will be significantly upgrading our computer hardware and software that will increase our ability to provide information. While preparing for the next federal fiscal year, we are negotiating with FEMA the Cooperative Agreement (CA). Essentially, funding for next year will be the same as this year. One key item we will be looking at in 1997 and beyond is the effect reducing the federal deficit will have on funding for local jurisdictions. There will be an effect, the question is really "How to manage the effect for the betterment of emergency management in Montana?" We need to find ways to do business more efficiently and smarter.

Dave Maser, formerly of the Fire Training School is our new Exercise Training Officer. We look forward to having Dave work with us to help become better prepared to help you and your communities.

Many of our staff will be taking family vacations this summer and enjoying Montana's beauty. We hope all of you have an enjoyable and safe summer.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Congratulations to Jim Greene for being presented a "Superior Performance Award" by the Montana Air National Guard for the development of a disaster resource matrix which will be recommended for use nationwide. More congratulations to Jim for being elected to the Executive Board of Directors for the Western States Seismic Policy Council (WSSPC).

FROM THE EDITOR: Fred Naehner

Check out the new column titled "Dear Super D.O.", pronounced *super due*. We will share some most unusual situations from our true to life files.

The electronic age is here, believe it or not! The editor would be most grateful if articles could be put on a disk on WordPerfect version 5.1 or later. I promise to return the disk. Thanks for your help! The deadline for the Fall, 1995 issue of the DES Newsletter is Friday, October 6, 1995.

FROM PAUL SPENGLER: PREZ SEZ

Lewis and Clark County will commemorate the 60th anniversary of Helena's 1935 killer earthquakes on October 18, from 9 a.m. to noon, with a full scale exercise. The public will be asked to participate, which should lend realism to the exercise.

All county schools will have the first earthquake drill of the school year, which will include an evacuation of the buildings. ST. Peter's Community Hospital will also participate by activating its earthquake plan, in addition to responding to a mass casualty incident, as part of the exercise scenario. Blue Cross/Blue Shield, one of Helena's largest employers, has expressed interest in joining the exercise, and the Helena Regional Airport has already committed to participating. To encourage the exercise players to stay for the debriefing, which will occur immediately following the end of the exercise, McDonald's Restaurant will provide quarter pounders.

The purpose of the exercise is obviously to test our plan, and to test the new EOC telephone system, but also to publicize the seismic risk of the Helena Valley, and to educate the public about earthquake preparedness.

Montana Disaster and Emergency Services Newsletter

State & Local

Guidance to Replace
CPG 1-8, 1-8a and 1-10

I will represent you at a FEMA workshop at Region V in Chicago to review the new draft planning guidance developed by FEMA to replace the CPG 1-8, Civil Preparedness Guide for the Development of State and Local Emergency Operations Plans; CPG 1-8A, Guide for the Review of State and Local Emergency Operations Plans, and CPG 1-10, Guide for the Development of a State and Local Continuity of Government Capability.

The SLG will be used strictly as guidance, and will not be binding on any jurisdiction (FEMA's words, not mine). The major changes from the old CPG's are:

1. Nuclear attack is de-emphasized, but is included in a proposed annex.
2. The Incident Command System is included in the planning process.
3. Animal control is addressed for the first time, because recent disasters have revealed that this can be a big problem if it is not part of the Emergency Operations Plan.
4. A particular format is not mandated for the EOP.
5. Mitigation, not surprisingly, is emphasized, as the best way to save lives and property.

In sum, FEMA is making the guidance as user friendly as possible. The intent is to help local and state planners to develop the best possible plan for their jurisdiction.

The SLG may be printed as early as this fall, but don't delay any plans that you may have to write or to revise your own plan.

**PAUL SPENGLER, DES
ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT**

From the Planning Bureau Chief:
Dan McGowan

The Planning Bureau continues to move forward with important projects. We are in the final stages of completing the plan review process, hazard mitigation plan, plan library, catastrophic plan and the radiological program review. Our progress on the Hazard Vulnerability Analysis update and the LGDIM review is moving along nicely. With the new changes in state government, we will be devoting a great deal of time to reviewing and revising the State of Montana Emergency Operations Plan.

The bureau's ability to serve our customers has been enhanced since Fred Naeher (Earthquake Program) and Dave Maser (Exercise Training Officer) have joined us. We are approaching emergency management proactively and look forward to hearing from you with regard to your needs, suggestions and concerns.

DISTRICT II REPORT - Ed Gierke, District Rep.

The previous two months has been dedicated to visitations to county jurisdictions. Review of current statements of work and planning for FFY96 is in progress. The district as a whole is challenged to set **one year** and **three year goals** to address future needs of local jurisdictions.

A planning group has been established to develop a new format for county EOP's. This format is intended to be SOP based and more user friendly. This group will meet or confer by telephone throughout the year. Input is encouraged from any interested party.

A district wide survey has been completed and findings reflect needs related to:

- 1/ Modifying EOP's to meet local needs
- 2/ Notification SOP's for coordinators, deputies and volunteer staff
- 3/ Team building and exercise planning for multi-jurisdictional exercises
- 4/ Community based training to address local and district needs
- 5/ Sharing/mentoring of coordinator experience and training between jurisdictions to develop a better understanding of neighboring jurisdiction's capability and resource

- 6/ Group projects based on common need (interjurisdictional)
- 7/ Time management and delegation of assignments
- 8/ Development of a volunteer staff and staffing patterns
- 9/ Identify good fishing sights and proven fishing methods

Welcome on board: Charlie Hanson, Coordinator for Toole and Liberty County; Cindy Mullaney, Coordinator for Pondera County.

Plans are soon have a new coordinator for Phillips County.

From the Fire Training School

HAZARDOUS MATERIAL RESPONSE LEVEL OF SERVICE

"THE PLAN"

Your fire department's response to hazardous material incidents is dictated by the fire fighters' and officers' abilities and available resources.

Federal regulation requires every department to have a written emergency response plan detailing the level of service that will be provided to the response area. The plan can be a pure fire service plan or may be part of a larger plan, such as county plan. You may not be aware of it now but every county does have a plan and you can be sure your department is mentioned in it. The

Disaster and Emergency Services Coordinator for your county can show you the plan.

The plan most likely defines the roles of many agencies at a hazardous material incident. 29 CFR 1910.120 (q)(1) is where Uncle Sam has identified your responsibilities for you. The regulations refer to employees and employers. The regulations give those titles to any emergency responder no matter if you are responding as an industry employee, a paid fire fighter, or a volunteer. The required elements of a compliant emergency response plan are listed in 29 CFR 1910.120 (q)(1) and are as follows:

Pre-emergency planning & coordination with outside parties. In this section the role of each response organization is defined. What will law enforcement, emergency medical responders, private industry, public works employees, state highway, and others do. Include any formal agreements.

Personnel roles, lines of authority, training, & communication. Define who will be in charge of what activities and who is in command. Clearly outline the training each responder must receive to perform assigned duties.

Make those responsibilities competency based and require standard performance of skills during practice sessions. Identify the communications methods and procedures to be used

and make their use a part of your practice.

Safe distances & places of refuge. The regulation wants everything pre-planned including a designated safe place to be. Until that's done or when it is not possible to do so (like on transportation routes) a standard operating procedure should define a safe staging area.

Prepare procedures for site security & control. Define evaluation routes and procedures. Evacuation can be difficult. The plan needs to address how evacuation will be handled. In addition, define how emergency responders will evacuate if it becomes necessary. A good accountability and tracking system makes this possible.

Decontamination. Decontamination procedures are to be defined and rules concerning decon must be communicated. The regulations in 29 CFR 1910.120 (q)(ix) says that the IC shall implement appropriate decontamination procedures. The "pros" say: "decon gets set up before anybody goes in." That makes sense.

Emergency medical treatment and first aid: Identify who will have EMS responsibility and how and when they are to respond. 29 CFR 1910.120 (q)(vi) says; "Advanced first aid support personnel, as a minimum, shall also stand by with medical equipment and transportation capability."

Montana Disaster and Emergency Services Newsletter

Emergency alerting & response procedures: Outline these procedures so responders know how to start a response and to ensure that all those who need to be alerted are promptly notified. Each responder should know how they are to act once they are notified. That's where practice should begin, from the time responders are notified.

Implement a procedure to critique any responses made using the plan and a specific procedure to make the appropriate changes when problems are identified.

Once planning requirements have been met, the responders must be trained to the appropriate level so they can perform the work to established standard. During the planning process keep in mind what is real.

The ability to train and equip responders must be a consideration ensuring a plan is not developed creating a greater training burden that you are able to meet.

RACES

-Alive & Well in Montana-

By: Bruce Walters N7MXV
State RACES Officer

Montana RACES is alive and well! A lot has happened over the last year and a half. A State Plan was developed, the State

DES was outfitted with a new ICOM station, and I have had the pleasure of meeting with many Hams statewide to discuss emergency communications.

You will notice more changes and improvements this year. Before we look at what is coming, let's look at the RACES program.

Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) is an organization of amateur radio operators who volunteer to provide radio communications for state and local governments in time of emergency. Created in 1952, primarily to serve in civil defense emergencies, RACES provides essential communications and warning links to supplement state and local government assets during emergencies.

In the fall the RACES net will be called from the State DES. This will give us a current, ongoing, test of the Headquarters radio station. The schedule is not yet set and the RACES net will continue to be held on the first and third Sundays at least through the summer.

Finally, we will conduct a test of the RACES system in the fall.

We will probably not have a complete emergency exercise, but a test of the communications plan with each county participating.

Yes, RACES is alive and well in Montana.

**From Larry Akers,
State Hazard
Mitigation Officer:**



HAVE LABOR WILL TRAVEL
Have you finally identified a Hazard Mitigation project, but cannot work on it due to lack of funds and labor? Unfortunately I can't help with funds but I can tell you where you can find the labor.

The Montana Conservation Corps is an outfit which can be a great deal of help to us on our projects. The Montana Conservation Corps is part of the Presidents AMERICORPS. It consists of young adults performing service to their country. This translates into a source of young, energetic people to perform manual labor to local governments. We have already seen their talents at work in the spring flooding at Lima, MT. They assisted in the flood fight in the rain and snow and worked around the clock. After the flood fight they assisted home owners in mucking out basements and helping in any other way they could.

The program is a 70/30% cost share with the Federal Government paying the 70%. If the work is a result of a State Disaster Declaration, I may be able to help with the 30%. The crews provide most of their own transportation and equipment. They also have their own supervision and require assistance only if the project is of a technical nature. The Corps coordinator, Mr. Mark Dwyer informs me he is in the process of working on his 1996 work schedule. If you have a worthwhile project, Mark would like to hear from you at 406-587-2606. Mark will discuss the project and provide you with a work application.

It's not often in this Mitigation field that anything "free" comes along. Take advantage of this one!

DAM SAFETY EXERCISE DESIGN COURSE THE SEQUEL

BY: LARRY AKERS

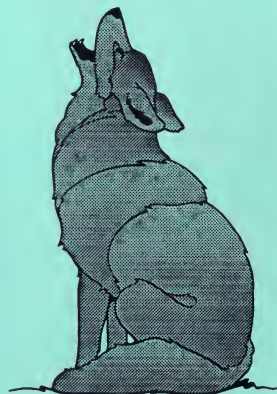
The April 1995 Exercise Design Course for Dam Safety is now history. It has been lauded by many to be the best Exercise Design Course ever taught by the Montana State DES. It was a project which I worked on for some time and Chris and Ed did an outstanding job instructing. As of this date we are beginning our planning for the second

version of this course to be taught this winter. The course will be the same and the student audience is the same. The only thing different is what I call the low budget version. The training guys tell me that we do not have enough funds to give scholarships or reimbursements.

Let me make one point very clear. The course does not teach dam safety! It teaches personnel involved in dam safety and emergency management how to plan and conduct an exercise at their facility or in their community. The target audience and priority for acceptance to the course is as follows:

- #1 Teams consisting of dam owner/operators and his or her local emergency manager, plus law enforcement and other key personnel from that community.
- #2 Portions of a team, i.e. a dam person and DES coordinator or a dam person and law enforcement person.
- #3 An individual dam person or individual emergency management personnel.

The scheduled dates are December 13-15, 1995. The location is to be announced. The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) will be assisting with the course. DNRC will also be encouraging dam owner/



operators to attend and to coordinate with emergency management personnel in their area. Early intelligence indicates there is more than enough interest to fill this course, in fact I have about twenty people from the April waiting list. If you plan to attend I need to know ASAP. Please fill out your "Montana General Application Form 75-5 EZ" and send it in.

Montana Disaster and Emergency Services Newsletter

ABANDONED CIVIL DEFENSE FIRST AID KITS:

By Larry Akers, PIO

On 18 July 1995 an incident took place in Great Falls which warrants some discussion and advice. To summarize: children who were playing in a housing area found a 1960s vintage Civil Defense first aid kit. They opened the kit and began playing with the medicine vials and bottles. A parent called 911. Emergency personnel were dispatched. The Great Falls fire department did an excellent job of identifying the substances. As a precaution while the identification process took place several children and fireman were transported to a local hospital. As I talked to the officials involved I learned of other similar incidents.

Be advised; originally these kits contained some pretty heavy duty drugs. If you consider that these kits were to be used in times of Nuclear, Biological or Chemical warfare, you can understand why Phenobarbital, atropine and others were included. In the latter 1960s and into the 1970s these drugs were purged from the kits; however, some kits were obviously overlooked. In addition to the above drugs, the kits do contain aspirin, sulfa drugs and chloroform. Some people, especially

children, could have reactions to these drugs.

Should you encounter a similar situation involving unknown drugs or other unknown substances there is a lot of help out there. Among your first sources should be your US DOT "Emergency Response Guidebook". Should the guide not have the info you need it gives the phone number of

CHEMTREC at 1-800-424-9300.

Calls to the CHEMTREC number should be limited to emergencies only. The National Response Center, at 1-800-424-8802, manned by the US Coast Guard is another source of technical assistance. Numbers for the Department of Defense for military shipments are also available in the guide. Another source for information on questions regarding military material is Meinstrom Air Force Base in Great Falls, our point of contact there is Yvonne Kobaszlar at 406-731-6689 during duty hours and after duty at 406-731-3801. Finally, do not forget to report the incident to the MT DES Duty Officer at 406-444-6911.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE: submitted by Bill Thomas

Larry Laknar, Beaverhead County DES coordinator, sent some bomb threat information to a number of local agencies but misspelled "threat" as "treat".

The next day he found a donut with a fuse in it on his desk.

I guess you'd call that a "who-donut?" mystery!

From the Desk of Fred Cowie:

The 1995 SERC/TERC/LEPC Conference will be held in Great Falls at the Holiday Inn on September 12 & 13th. Letters to LEPC's, DES Coordinators, TERC's and the SERC have been sent out. The Point of contact for the meeting is Fred Cowie, MTDES Hazmat Program Manager, 406-444-6911, fax 444-6965.

Editor's note: Acronym decoder as follows:

SERC: State Emergency Response Commission
TERC: Tribal Emergency Response Commission
LEPC: Local Emergency Planning Committee
DES: Disaster and Emergency Services
MTDES: Montana Disaster and Emergency Services Division
FEMA: Federal Emergency of More Acronyms

From the:

State Training Officer
Chris Christenson:

The Professional Development Series schedule is:

"Meeting for Results", Glendive, November 13, 1995. Evening session.

"Decision Making and Problem Solving", Glendive, November 14. All day.

"Developing Volunteer Resources", Glendive, November 15-16. 1½ days.

For more information, contact Chris at 406-444-6911.

TIDBITS FROM DISTRICT III: BOB FRY

Exercises have been the topic of discussion around District III. Both in what has been conducted and what is being planned. Yellowstone county conducted two large exercises; one being a functional mass casualty at the airport and another with Lockwood fire District which was a full scale wildland fire interface exercise which involved over 200 participants and management staff. I worked as the operations chief on the management staff and the exercise was managed using the Incident Command System. I have a complete shift plan with the exercise objectives and checklists if anyone would like a copy. The exercise involved a wide use of mutual aid, multi-agency initial attack with an actual evacuation of residents who reported to an evacuation center. Just the management of the exercise of this size was a good test of an Incident Command Team's ability to manage, not to mention the responders who were tested. There were also some actual occurrences which are

being submitted as either FE or FSE for credit. Floods affecting Big Horn county and other areas were a major test of the ability to manage. Lewis and Clark had another major train accident involving hazardous materials. There is also planning being done by both Districts III and IV on a major exercise involving several counties.

INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM WORKING TEAM

The ICS working team had its most productive meeting yet in Billings. Assignments were made for each section and we worked vigorously to rewrite the taskbooks organized by section and delivered to the chairman by the end of July. The next meeting is scheduled for August 22nd in Livingston at the Park County EOC. At that meeting we expect to finalize a draft of taskbooks which jurisdictions will be able to use to qualify team members for type III all-risk teams or resource pools. For any more information or suggestions give me (Bob Fry) a call.

FROM THE DISTRICT I REP: BILL THOMAS

An issue identified in the state 5-year plan was for a recommendation for a standard evacuation plan capable of being implemented by any

jurisdiction in the state, regardless of population. The evacuation plan developed by Lt. Mike McMeekin of the Missoula County Sheriff's Office seems to fit the bill. The plan takes into account relevant disaster research and has been implemented successfully in several Montana jurisdictions.

Flathead County commissioners officially proclaimed the week of June 10, 1995 as Flood Awareness Week. The week is the culmination of an extensive flood preparedness effort coordinated by Flathead County DES coordinator, Kim Potter. The effort included a \$75,000 mapping project by the Corps of Engineers, publication of brochures and preparation of television commercials.

Congratulations to Larry Laknar, Beaverhead County DES and Mike Mitchell, Cenex at Dillon, both of whom were recently awarded certificates for completing all the emergency management Professional Development training courses.

Dave Reynolds has been appointed Sanders County Des coordinator. Dave's background includes being emergency management coordinator in Prescott, Arizona where he also retired as captain on the fire department. Dave is a certified ICS instructor and serves on the board of directors for the Plains Paradise ambulance service. Dave has taken a number of

Montana Disaster and Emergency Services Newsletter

DES related courses including completion of the "Phase" courses taught at Battle Creek, Michigan.

Mick Mills, at the last District 1 meeting, announced that he will soon step down as DES coordinator but will remain very active for the next couple of years working on a variety of projects with Bill Kemp who will be the new coordinator. Bill is currently the operations director for the city of Libby and has attended a number of DES functions with Mick in recent years. Mick is the oldest DES coordinator in the state (ambiguity intended). One day I jokingly asked him if he started in the business as a block warden and he answered "yes" -- for real.

FROM:
BUTTE/SILVER BOW
COUNTY: Wilma Puich
Butte Silver Bow County
Coroner Dan Hollis, has been accepted to the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) for a position on the disaster medical assistance team (DMAT). Dan was accepted as a coroner for the disaster mortality response team such as the one activated for the Oklahoma City bombing. Other members of the team include funeral directors, forensic odontologists, computer specialists and forensic anthropologists. This team will respond to national emergencies in Federal Region VIII which consists of the Dakotas,

Montana, Wyoming, Utah and Colorado.

Hollis' appointment is indefinite, but is subject to annual certification and mass fatality training such as the recent program hosted by the Butte Silver Bow disaster emergency service.

(editors note: If your community is interested in the Mass Fatality Response Course, please call Chris Christenson, State Training Officer at 406-444-6911.)

FROM THE:
Earthquake Program Manager:
FRED NAEHER

A four day Earthquake Safety and Training program was held in Flathead County in April, 1995. Over the course of four days, eighty five people attended the programs which stressed all hazard preparedness plans and drills. The program was directed towards teachers K-12 and school administrators.

A similar program is planned for this next April, 1996 in Butte. More information will be provided at a later date. This program is open to anyone who is interested, but will be directed towards those involved in education.

Two seismometers were recently purchased from Precision Measurement Devices Scientific, Inc. The package includes a wide band molecular electronic seismometer, true real time seismic data acquisition boards and supporting software. We expect delivery of the hard-

ware and software in November, 1995. One package will be installed at the Kila School in Kalispell and the other will be set up in the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology where Mike Stickney (state seismologist) will test it for accuracy and calibration. These devices will be used by junior high school students as a part of their earth science curriculum. Special funds for this project were provided by FEMA.

Fred Naeher will be presenting an earthquake awareness and safety program to the Butte Public School system on August 29, the state safety day on August 31 (Helena) and the Montana Education Association conference in Missoula on October 19 and 20.

If you would like to schedule a presentation in your community, please give Fred N. a call at 406-444-6911.

A very productive Earthquake Working Group meeting was held on July 13, 1995 in Helena. Fifteen people were in attendance. Among other topics, building codes issues were discussed and it was agreed that we would go on a public education campaign to stress the importance of codes. Stephanie Brandenberger of the State Department of Commerce, Building Codes Bureau, provided a list of certified local government programs that have building code procedures.

Please refer to the list dated August 1, 1994 in this article. Please note that all commercial structures outside of these cities or counties are inspected by the state Building Codes Bureau.

Certified Local Government Programs

August 1, 1994

Anaconda/Deer Lodge Co	B, En, H, D * (entire county)	Livingston	B, En, H, D, P, M
Belgrade	B, En, H, D, P	Malta	B, En, H, D
Belt	B, En, H, D	Miles City	B, En, H, D *(1 mfile)
Big Sandy	B, En, H, D	Missoula	B, En, H, D, El, P, M, *(4 1/2 miles)
Billings	B, En, H, D, El, P, M *(4 1/2 miles)	Pinesdale	B, En, H, D, El, P, M
Bozeman	B, En, H, D, El, P, M *(4 1/2 miles)	Plains	B, En, H, D
Broadus	B, En, H, D	Polson	B, En, H, D, M
Butte-Silver Bow County	B, En, H, D, El, P, M *(except WalkenUc)	Red Lodge	B, En, H, D
Chester	P	Richland County	B, En, H, D *(except Fairview)
Chinook	B, En, H, D	Ronan	B, En, H, D
Choteau	B, En, H, D	Roundup	B, En, H, D
Columbia Falls	B, En, H, D, P, M, El *(1 mUe)	St. Ignatius	B, En, H, D, El, P, M
Conrad	B, En, H, D	Shelby	B, En, H, D
Cut Bank	B, En, H, D	Sidney	B, En, H, D
Darby	B, En, H, D	Stevensville	B, En, H, D, El, P, M
Deer Lodge	B, En, H, D *(1 mfile)	Three Forks	B, En, H, D
East Helena	B, En, H, D, El, P, M	Townsend	B, En, H, D
Forsyth	B, En, H, D	Troy	B, En, H, D, M
Fort Benton	B, En, H, D *(1 mfile)	West Yellowstone	B, En, H, D, M
Glasgow	B, En, H, D, El, P, M	Whitefish	B, En, H, D, P, M *(1 mile)
Glendive	B, En, H, D	Wolf Point	B, En, H, D
Great Falls	B, En, H, D, El, P, M		
Hamilton	B, En, H, D, P		
Hardin	B, En, H, D		
Harlem	B, En, H, D		
Havre	B, En, H, D, P, M		
Helena	B, En, H, D, El, P, M		
Hot Springs	B, En, H, D		
Hysham	B, En, H, D		
Kalispell	B, En, H, D, P, M *(variable - up to 3 1/2 miles)		
Laurel	B, En, H, D, P		
Lewistown	B, En, H, D		
Libby	B, En, H, D		

Codes enforced by the Jurisdiction

B - Building
 El - Electrical
 En - Energy
 E - Elevator
 H - Housing
 P - Plumbing
 D - Dangerous Bldg
 M - Mechanical

*city extended jurisdiction

Just for Fun

Test Your Stress Level

Measure Your Stress Level for the Year

Value	Life Event		
100	Death of spouse	31	Mortgage over \$100,000
73	Divorce	30	Foreclosure of mortgage or loan
65	Marital separation	29	Change in responsibilities at work
63	Jail term	29	Son or daughter leaving home
63	Death of close family member	29	Trouble with in-laws
53	Personal injury or illness	28	Outstanding personal achievement
50	Marriage	26	Spouse begins or stops work
47	Fired at work	26	Begin or end school
45	Marital reconciliation	25	Change in living conditions
45	Retirement	24	Revision of personal habits
44	Change in health of family member	23	Trouble with boss
40	Pregnancy	20	Change in work hours or conditions
39	Sex difficulties	20	Change in residence
39	Gain of a new family member	20	Change in schools
39	Business readjustment	19	Change in recreation
38	Change in financial state	19	Change in church activities
37	Death of a close friend	19	Change in social activities
36	Change to a different line of work	15	Mortgage or loan of less than \$100,000
35	Change in the number of arguments with spouse	15	Change in sleeping habits
		15	Change in eating habits

In Holmes and Rahe's original work, 300 points is regarded as a "danger level" above which the individual has a 90 percent chance of a major health problem as a result of stress and change. Today, not only Holmes and Rahe but other stress experts recognize that individual differences plus learned strategies of stress management can radically alter stress and change tolerances. Use your score as a guideline only.

Adapted from: T.H. Holmes and R.H. Rahe "The Social Readjustment Rating Scale"
Journal of Psychosomatic Research, II: 213-218, 1967.

Dear Super D.O.: (see editors note, page 1)

July, 1995 (a.m.) A lady was told by a friend that gasoline would remove cat feces odor from her carpet. But, upon application of the gasoline, she found that she did not like the gas odor. The same friend told her that Clorox would remove the gas odor. A fire resulted.

The duty officer was called to find out who could explain the chemical reaction that took place. A chemist from the State Crime Laboratory was contacted who then was put in direct contact with the county emergency coordinator.

The Montana Disaster and Emergency Services Newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Disaster and Emergency Services Division. It is funded, in part, by a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Contributions of articles and ideas are welcome. Deadlines for submission are January 8 for the February issue; April 8 for the May issue; July 8 for the August Issue; and October 8 for the November issue.

The editor reserves the right to edit for clarity and length. The articles in this newsletter do not constitute official policy. Questions regarding articles may be addressed to the DES Newsletter Editor.